

Amendments to the Claims

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously Presented) A method for performing input/output operations on a memory by traversing a queue of commands, comprising the steps of:

accessing a queue entry of a queue of at least two commands;

determining if the queue entry includes a valid command;

determining if the valid command is a read command if the queue entry includes a valid command;

determining if a Next Valid Write Address pointer field of the queue entry holds a valid write address pointer if the valid command is determined to be a read command;

using the Next Valid Write Address pointer of the queue entry to access a second queue entry if the first queue entry includes a Next Valid Write Address pointer; and

commencing to fill a pipeline for the write command corresponding to the second queue entry.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 37, further comprising the step of performing the read command if the valid command is a read command.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 37, further comprising the step of allowing a concurrent write command to complete before determining if the Next Valid Write Address pointer field of the queue entry holds a valid write address pointer.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 37, further comprising the step of terminating any concurrent write commands in progress before determining if the Next Valid Write Address pointer field of the queue entry holds a valid write address pointer.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 37, further comprising the step of processing the valid command that is a read command while determining if the Next Valid Write Address pointer is valid.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 41, further comprising the step of accessing the queue entry corresponding to the Next Valid Write Address pointer if the Next Valid Write Address pointer is valid.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 42, further comprising the step of determining if a command at the queue entry corresponding to the Next Valid Write Address pointer is a valid write command.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 43, further comprising the step of preparing data in an outbound pipeline in anticipation of the valid write command being processed if the command at the queue entry is determined be a valid write command.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 44, further comprising the step of advancing through the queue of entries such that for each just accessed queue entry, a command at a just accessed queue entry is performed.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 45, wherein the command at the just accessed queue entry is another read command.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 46, wherein the command at the just accessed queue entry is the write command.